

Appl. No. 09/755,878
Amdt. dated October 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 25, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3 and 8-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, and 8-15 were amended and new claims 16-19 were added to more distinctly claim the invention. Support for the new and amended claims can be found in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0051536 to Toshihiko Muramatsu (Muramatsu). Claims 2, 4, 6-7, and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,175,721 to Yasuo Hayato (Hayato). Claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu, in view of Hayato and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,308,086 to Hideyuki Yoshino (Yoshino). Claims 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,870,684 to Hoashi et al. (Hoashi). Claims 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu, in view of U.S. Patent 6,463,278 to Kraft et al. (Kraft) and further in view of U.S. Patent RE37,281 to Takamasa Motegi (Motegi). Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu, in view of Kraft. Claims 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muramatsu, in view Kraft and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,771,001 to Marion J. Cobb (Cobb).

Claim 1, as amended, recites "a mixer for mixing a plurality of said sound sources." Muramatsu fails to teach, or provide a motivation for, a mixer for mixing a plurality of sound sources. In addition, claim 1, as amended, recites "said controller controls said ringing sound generator so as to generate the ringing sound using at least two of said sound sources when the signal comes in." Muramatsu fails to teach or suggest using a plurality of sound sources. On the contrary, Muramatsu discloses a single sound source, a RAM having stored a plurality of sound patterns (see paragraphs [0033] and [0034]), and thus it can not generate a ringing sound using at least two sound sources. For at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 8, as amended, recites "a ringing sound generator for generating the ringing sound in accordance with a plurality of patterns made of combination of at least two sound sources." As stated above, Muramatsu fails to teach or suggest using a plurality of sound

PATENT

Appl. No. 09/755,878
Amdt. dated October 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 25, 2003

sources. Muramatsu discloses a single sound source, and thus it can not generate a ringing sound using at least two sound sources. For at least this reason, claim 8 is allowable..

New claim 16 is patentable over Muramatsu. Muramatsu fails to teach, or provide any motivation for, a plurality of sound generation protocols, and can not generate a ringing sound using at least two sound generation protocols. New claims 17-18, dependent on claim 16, are allowable for at least being dependent on allowable subject matter.

Claim 19, as amended, recites "said controller controls said ringing sound generator so as to generate the ringing sound using at least two of said sound sources when the signal comes in." As stated above, Muramatsu fails to teach or suggest this limitation. For at least this reason, claim 19 is allowable. Claims 2-3 and 9-15, which are dependent upon claim 19, are allowable for at least being dependent upon allowable subject matter.

Appl. No. 09/755,878
Amdt. dated October 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 25, 2003


PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Y. Cho
Reg. No. 44,612

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
SYC:asb
80067899 v1

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 27 2003

OFFICIAL